Abstract

1   In the context of computer-based auctions, innovations in proxy bids and auction formats are

2   disclosed. In accordance with the illustrative embodiment, a bidder can program a data processing

3   system to enter one or more bids by proxy. The capabilities offered by the data processing system

4   include: determining one or more bid variables based, at least in part, on the identity of one or more

5   bidders in an auction, or determining one or more bid variables based, at least in part, on the absence

6   of one or more bidders from an auction, or determining one or more bid variables based, at least in

7   part, on the bid variables in one or more other bids, or determining one or more bid variables based, at

8   least in part, on the results of another auction, or determining one or more bid variables based, at least

9   in part, on default values, or waiting a specific or random amount of time before entering a bid in

10   behalf of a bidder, or any combination of these.